

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 SAM-01 /076 W

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R 201437Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3045

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3676

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG

SUBJ: CSCE POLICY: ORGANIZATION OF STAGE III

REF: STATE 116033

1. PARA 7 OF REFTTEL INSTRUCTS US TO WORK ACTIVELY WITH ALLIES AND OTHERS TO SEE THAT A NEUTRAL AND NOT BREZHNEV SPEAKS FIRST AT STATE III. AS WE HAVE REPORTED IN GENEVA 3402 AND 3631, CURRENT DEBATE ON SPEAKING ORDER IS FOCUSSED ON METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING SPEAKING LIST. WE WOULD ONLY BE ABLE TO WORK FOR A SPECIFIC SPEAKING ORDER IF LIST OF SPEAKERS ITSELF WERE TO BE NEGOTIATED DURING STAGE II. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE SUCH A METHOD (NEGOTIATION) WILL BE CHOSEN SINCE SOME COUNTRIES (E.G. ROMANIA) WILL OPPOSE IT. FURTHERMORE, WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT CONSIDER IT A DESIRABLE METHOD SINCE MANY OF OUR OWN ALLIES (E.G. FRG - SEE PARA VII B(5) OF GENEVA 3402) ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT BREZHNEV AS FIRST SPEAKER, AND HAVE EVEN PROPOSED THIS THEMSELVES.

2. PARA 7 OF REFTTEL WOULD ALSO SEEM TO MILITATE AGAINST THE FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED METHOD OF ESTABLISHING THE SPEAKERS LIST, SINCE EXPERIENCE FROM STAGE I INDICATES THE SOVIETS CAN PLACE A WAITING OFFICIAL AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY

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MUCH EARLIER THAN ANYONE ELSE, AND THUS PRETTY WELL GUARANTEE

THEIR FIRST PLACE ON THE LIST.

3. ELIMINATING THESE TWO POSSIBLE METHODS FOR ESTABLISHING THE SPEAKERS LIST, WE ARE LEFT WITH SOME VERSION OF DRAWING LOTS, AND WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE METHOD WHICH PROVIDES THE BEST CHANCES FOR ENSURING THAT BREZHNEV DOES NOT SPEAK FIRST. AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 2(A) OF GENEVA 3631, WE WOULD PLAN TO WORK FOR AGREEMENT ON A METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING THE SPEAKERS LIST WHICH WOULD BE BASED ON DRAWING LOTS FOR FIRST SPEAKER, AFTER WHICH NORMAL ALPHABETICAL ORDER WOULD BE FOLLOWED, WITH A SPECIFIC PROHIBITION AGAINST TRADING. WHILE THIS WOULD OBVIOUSLY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL WHO SPEAKS FIRST, THE CHANCES THAT THIS WOULD BE BREZHNEV WOULD BE REDUCED TO ONE OUT OF 35.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT THIS COURSE OF ACTION IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT.DALE

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NNN

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